



**this  
is  
our  
church**

**First Presbyterian Church  
Durham  
North Carolina**

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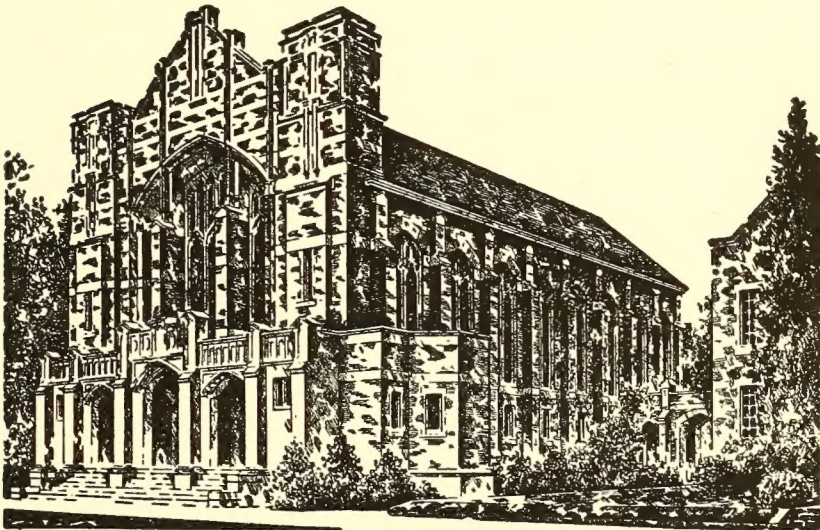
**A Presentation of the**

**First Presbyterian Church,**

**Main and Roxboro Streets**

**Durham, N. C.**

**Organized 1871**



# Foreword

This booklet is a revised edition of an earlier pamphlet presenting the plant, the program, and the personnel of the First Presbyterian Church, Durham, North Carolina. The Session of the church has authorized the revision and financed its printing.

While retaining the basic structure of the original pamphlet, the committee has changed its form, added certain portions, and brought the information up to date.

This booklet is intended to serve as a friendly introduction to our church for visitors, newcomers and new members; the committee hopes it will also help our members gain an over-all view of the many and varied activities which we call "our church."

The Committee

# Our Church

Organized in 1871, the First Presbyterian Church is the oldest Presbyterian church in Durham. With a membership of approximately one thousand, it is the largest Presbyterian church in the city. Despite its age it still enjoys vigorous growth. Despite its size, the individual still stands at the center of its concern. As the "mother of Presbyterianism in Durham County" it has established or helped to establish five other Presbyterian churches. Indicative of its wider concern was a mission station in Korea, built and endowed by the generosity of one of its members of earlier years. Throughout its history, as still today, its spiritual vitality has been manifested by its inclusive program of service seeking to minister to human needs everywhere. It is literally and figuratively true that "the whole city is our parish and the whole world our concern."

Being Presbyterian in faith and order, we are a part of Granville Presbytery, the Synod of North Carolina, and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. We participate in the total program of our denomination and support all its agencies. Each year more than one third of our budget (provided by the voluntary gifts of our members) goes to benevolences—that is, to the support of the church's ministry and mission beyond the local parish.

Though denominationally loyal, we are not denominationally minded. We are committed to ecumenical (or cooperative) Christianity. That commitment is expressed by our affiliation with the North Carolina Council of Churches, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in America, the World Council of Churches, and the World Alliance of Churches holding the Presbyterian Faith and Government (the last organization being one of the largest Protestant groups in Christendom). It might be said that our first concern is to be Christian, our second concern is to be Protestant, and our third concern is to be Presbyterian. Practically, this has meant that many people with other than Presbyterian background feel fully at home within our fellowship.

The New Testament calls the Church "the Body of Christ in the world." We take that figure of speech seriously, and understand it to mean that Christ



is the only rightful Lord and Head of the Church. Consequently we strive to know the mind of Christ, to manifest the spirit of Christ, to obey the will of Christ, and to do the work of Christ and serve His redemptive purpose in and for the world. To that end, we seek to witness by every means at our disposal to the sovereign purpose and love of God, to the salvation from sin that is offered us through Christ our Lord, and to the available presence and power of the Holy Spirit enabling us to live the Christian life. Our aim is to keep our message and our ministry Christ-centered, Biblically sound, theologically mature, socially relevant, and positively and practically helpful in daily living.

Through the years, as at the present time, our membership and constituency have been representative of an inclusive cross-section of the city's life, providing a healthy, stimulating, and enriching fellowship for all. Among the members of First Church can be found people from all walks of life. Most of us are "little people" who never make the headlines. Some are counted "leaders" in the business, commercial, industrial, professional, educational, and civic affairs of the city's life. Within our membership is a large and growing segment of the University community who have found their church home here, and whose presence is a source of encouragement and great usefulness. We have diversity and unity. For this "confederacy of believers" is drawn together and held together by a common loyalty to Christ and a shared purpose to further His Kingdom in the life of the world.

The church plant is composed of three main buildings: the Sanctuary, the Church House, and the Sunday School Building (often called, because of its shape, the Round House). The Sanctuary is air-conditioned, and seats some 600 persons. The Cloister Chapel is part of the Sanctuary building, as are the church office and the offices of the Minister and the Director of Music. Underneath the Sanctuary are attractive and roomy quarters for the Junior High and Senior High Departments.

The Church House is a spacious building with home-like furnishings. It houses the offices of the Director of Christian Education and the Church Hostess, as well as the kitchen and dining facilities. It is the center of week-day activities, and on Sunday provides space for three adult Sunday School classes, two classes of the Kindergarten Department, and the Crib Nursery. It also serves as the center for recreational activities.

The Sunday School Building provides space for the Toddlers, Nursery, Primary, and Junior Departments of the Sunday School.

Adjacent to the church are limited parking facilities and lawn space. Additional and adequate parking facilities are available in the immediate neighborhood of the church.

# **Our Ministry of Worship**

The private and public worship of God is the soul's deliberate and habitual exposure to the truth and love and purpose of God. Or, as someone has put it, "worship is keeping the windows of one's life open toward God." For that reason it is the beating heart of the Christian's faith and life. Therefore by every available and appropriate means we seek to nourish private devotion and to provide inspiring opportunities for corporate or public worship.

Two services of worship are held each Sunday—the first at 9:45 A.M. (during the Sunday School hour), and the second at 11:00 A.M. In an air-conditioned sanctuary of simple beauty and dignity the worshiper finds quietness and physical comfort, emotional peace, mental stimulation, quickening of the conscience, spiritual nourishment, and resolution of the will. Our aim is that he may leave with renewed strength, recovered courage, and refreshed hope for the days that lie ahead. In the course of a year there are a number of additional special or occasional services of worship—such as those that come during the Lenten, Easter, Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas seasons of the year.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion (the Lord's Supper) is celebrated on one Sunday each quarter at both morning services of worship, and on several additional occasions during the year. As an expression of our particular concern for our young people, their families and friends, there are two special communion services: one during the Lenten season, when the members of the Communicants' Class are officially received into full church membership by the Session; the second one in the early fall, when the young people leave their homes for college and preparatory schools.

Since ours is not just a "Sunday church," we have a mid-week devotional service each Wednesday at 1:00 P.M. This is open to everyone, but is designed particularly for business people and shoppers. The brief devotional period in the Sanctuary is preceded by one luncheon at 12:30 P.M. and followed by another one at 1:20 P.M.

The Cloister Chapel, which has an entrance off Roxboro Street, is open from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. every day of the year. Here the individual may find a quiet and lovely retreat for a brief moment of personal meditation and prayer. This room is also occasionally used for very small weddings and private baptismal services.



Our aim is that no meeting or occasion shall take place in the church buildings without at least a moment of reverence and prayer to express our gratitude to God and to seek His guidance and blessing.

## **Our Pastoral Ministry**

Wherever, whenever, and in whatever the church is involved, the pastor and his assistants are present to lead, to guide, or to support. The pastoral ministry, therefore, includes far more than the Sunday services of worship—or the praying, teaching, and preaching ministry. These, of course, are probably the most important aspects of the minister's total task. In the pulpit he stands before us, the congregation, as our priest, speaking *for us* in his prayers before God; as our teacher, representing the best traditions of *the Church* and of Christian faith and thought as he teaches us and our children; and as our prophet, speaking *for God* in his proclamation of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments.

The minister is well prepared for his preaching and teaching responsibilities through years of training and wide experience. But the ministry is an on-going process, a growing experience. It takes conscientious study, deep thought, and hours of preparation from week to week.

Outside the pulpit, the pastoral ministry widens into an all-encompassing task. It includes visiting in hospitals and homes where there is physical or spiritual need, as well as where there is family joy or some newly awakened interest for God and the church. It brings the pastor into companionship with all of us—in times of happiness as well as in days of sorrow, in the celebrations of the home as well as in sickness and death. It also includes the counseling ministry, the ministry to individuals. All of us are free to come to the minister whenever we need a confidential relationship, understanding, advice, and counsel.

The pastor is also the administrator of the church, the moderator of the Session (the governing body), the chief of the church staff, the originator of most of the church's plans and proposals and programs, the coordinator of the many-sided church activities, the executive who makes decisions and is responsible for the results. He represents our church in the community and in civic organizations. He stands in close relationship to the Presbytery, the Synod,



and the General Assembly; and he seeks both to represent our church in these bodies and to represent the larger church to us.

The pastoral ministry, then, is as inclusive and varied as the church itself. In a church the size of ours, it is obviously impossible for one man to meet all the demands of such an inclusive task. Our minister, therefore, has his assistants: the Assistant-to-the-Minister, who helps in the pulpit on Sunday morning and takes care of part of the visitation needs during the week; the Parish Assistant and Church Hostess, who also assumes a share of the visitation burdens, besides keeping the Church House and its operations running smoothly; and the secretaries in the church office, who share the many and varied administrative tasks. They all form an effective working team.

## **Our Ministry of Education**

We start with the proposition that an informed Christian becomes a more useful and effective Christian. Therefore we are committed to the best program of Christian education we can fashion from the resources available. We believe further that Christian education is a continuous process of Christian nurture spanning the whole of a person's life from birth to death. Under that conviction our program becomes somewhat like a rowboat that must be propelled by two oars. At one oar are the home and the family. At the other are the church and its teachers. Thus we think of our educational program as a team effort, the final effectiveness of which depends not so much upon the excellence of our curriculum materials and physical equipment as upon how well and how faithfully both oarsmen do their part.

In a sense we regard everything we do here at the church as a part of our educational ministry, designed to contribute something to the maturing of growing personalities in the Christian faith and life.



At the hub of our educational program is the Sunday School. There are classes for every age group through senior high school, and classes designed par-

ticularly for adults. Under the able supervision of a trained and experienced Director of Christian Education, and staffed by a large corps of competent and devoted volunteer teachers and workers, our Sunday School has consistently maintained high standards of excellence. All classes meet at 9:45 A.M. each Sunday. In addition, "second-hour sessions" are conducted during the 11:00 A.M. Service of Worship for infants and children up through the Primary Department.

The Sunday School is divided into the following classes and departments:

*Children*

Crib care nursery.

Toddlers:

1-year-olds.

2-year-olds.

3-year-olds.

Kindergarten:

4-year-olds.

5-year-olds.

Primary Department—

first and second grades.

Primary Department—third grade.

Junior Department—fourth, fifth,  
and sixth grades.

*Young people*

Junior High Department—seventh,  
eighth, and ninth grades.

Senior High Department—tenth,  
eleventh, and twelfth grades.

*Adults*

Big Brothers Class—Men's Bible  
class.

Blacknall Class—Women's Bible  
class.

Fellowship Class—for men *and*  
women.

\* \* \*

Clustered around the central hub of the Sunday School are other related groups and activities. On Sunday evenings the Pioneer Youth Fellowship (junior high) and the Senior High Fellowship meet at the Church House at 6:00 P.M. for supper and a program. Here these young people, with the help of adult advisers, develop the qualities of personal Christian leadership by assuming responsibility.

The First Church Forum is a group for young adults which meets at 6:00 P.M. on alternate Sundays for supper and group discussion.

None of the Sunday night groups are limited to our own congregation, but all interested persons are sincerely welcomed.

In cooperation with the local YMCA, the church sponsors basketball and softball teams for boys and men.

During the Lenten season each year the minister conducts a Communicants' Class for young people preparing for church membership. At meetings held every Saturday morning for six to eight weeks the minister seeks to interpret



the essential elements of the Christian faith and life in terms that are understandable and meaningful to a young person.

During the summer months many recreational and spiritually enriching activities are carried on by the church:

Vacation Church School is a carefully planned one-week program conducted for children through the sixth grade. In addition to its educational and recreational program, instruction in choral singing is given by the Director of Music.

Some time during August members of all the Presbyterian Youth Fellowships in Durham hold a Youth Activities Week, meeting nightly at one of the churches for supper, an inspirational talk, discussions in small groups divided according to age, and a program of recreation.

As a member of Granville Presbytery, our church participates in the excellent year-round program at our new camp and conference grounds, Presbyterian Point, situated on Kerr Lake. The camping programs in the summer are particularly appealing to the children and young people.

The various conferences held at Montreat in the summer for both young people and adults are always richly satisfying religious experiences for those who attend.



For the adult members of the congregation definite annual programs are planned to provide education and inspiration.

The Durham Presbyterian School of Christian Growth is a cooperative effort of all the Presbyterian churches in Durham. This meets on five successive nights, and persons registering for the school have a choice of three or four study courses in which to enroll.

Usually in the fall and again during the Lenten season a special series of Bible study lectures, taught by a qualified theologian, are given on five or six successive Wednesday nights.

All Sunday School teachers participate in the Workers Conference, which meets every other month for dinner. The program following the meal is designed to strengthen and enrich the entire Sunday School program. In addition, individual departmental meetings are called as often as necessary.

Since the home and family are an indispensable part of our educational "team effort," we not only seek the parents' understanding and cooperation in what we are trying to do at the church; we also endeavor to put into their hands every helpful tool that will enable them to do their part. Pamphlets and literature are provided for use in the home, and parents and teachers are encouraged to meet together on departmental "family nights" and other occasions.



The organization known as the Women of the Church is an active and integral part of our total church program. Its object is to unite in Christian fellowship all the women of our church, and to provide opportunities for them to study and apply the teachings of Christ in all areas of life. Its goal is to enlist in training and in service all the women in our church. To accomplish this goal, varied and well organized groups meet at monthly intervals.

On the first Monday of each month the various circles meet in small, intimate groups, usually in the homes of the members. The circles follow a fairly well defined program: a period of simple refreshments and fellowship, followed by a business meeting for discussion of circle projects and the work of the various agencies of the church, and a Bible study. The Bible study takes the form of a discussion drawing in all members of the group, and has proved to be a real meeting of minds in an effort to apply the principles of Christ to all areas of life.

While most of the circles meet in the morning, there are also groups which meet on the first Monday night of each month, and a business women's circle which meets for supper on the second Tuesday of the month.

On the second Monday of each month the group meets as a whole for a program designed to educate our women in the total program of the Presbyterian Church. This follows fairly closely the excellent material available through our Board of Women's Work, which stresses world-wide Christian missions, church extension, General Fund agencies, and so forth. Our aim is to promote the spiritual, educational, social, and financial welfare of the church and to encourage the women to bear personal witness to Christ.

## **Our Ministry of Music**

Music is the heart's native language. From earliest Biblical times it has been associated with the adoration and praise of God. It holds an important place in our church. Believing that a knowledge and love of sacred music is a part of a Christian's rightful heritage, we have recently strengthened this aspect



of our ministry. Under the leadership of a trained, competent, and full-time Organist and Director of Music, with the excellent help of a part-time assistant, we now have seven organized choirs, with further expansion planned. When a child reaches the age of 4, he or she may enroll in the Children's Choir and begin an enriching experience of learning and singing good music. As the children grow older and more experienced, they move upward through the various choirs. The older children sing in the services of worship on several occasions during the year, and participate in the program of Christmas music. The Carillon Choir—Durham's first bell choir—is made up of boys in the seventh grade and beyond.

At present the choirs are set up as follows:

Children's Choir—4- and 5-year-olds.

Carol Choir—boys and girls in the first, second, and third grades.

Crusader Choir—boys and girls in the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades.

Carolette Choir—girls in the seventh and eighth grades.

Chapel Choir—boys and girls from the ninth through the twelfth grade.

Chancel Choir—the adult choir.

Carillon Choir (a special choir of bells)—boys from the seventh grade up.

Altogether some 160 persons are participating in the music program of the church, all on a volunteer basis. Rehearsal days are changed periodically to accommodate the members. All parts of our music program are closely related to our educational program, and each enriches the other.

## **Our Ministry of Fellowship**

Fellowship, as we normally think of the term, is not so much a studied aim of the church's ministry as it is one of the many by-products that result when Christian people live, learn, work, and worship together in the church. It is somewhat like the fragrance that hovers over a rose garden in full bloom: Fellowship is not the bush or the bloom; it is the pleasant fragrance. There are

occasions, of course—such as our coffee hours, play nights, parties, dances, and other recreational activities—when our immediate purpose is simply to get better acquainted and to enjoy one another's company, for the sheer joy that comes from such association. Most of the time, however, our sense of fellowship is a kind of constant overtone that accompanies all that we do. While the main purpose of our many organizations and activities is learning, serving, and witnessing, yet the enriching by-product in all is this feeling of oneness, "at-homeness," and friendliness that comes from being together, learning together, and serving together in worth-while endeavors. Our aim is that no one shall feel like a stranger in our midst, and that none shall feel left out or alone. Our comradeship with Christ brings us a comradeship with one another. We believe that here at First Church everyone can find this same sense of Christian fellowship which those of us who have been here longer have found good, satisfying, and rewarding.

To further implement and strengthen our ministry of fellowship, and as an evidence of our Christian concern for persons inside and outside the church, the Parish Plan was organized some time ago. For this purpose the city has been divided into a number of smaller "parishes," each with 12 to 20 church families, and each having a family designated as "parish leaders."

The purpose of the Parish Plan is twofold.

1. In a large downtown church, with two worship services, it is difficult for the members to get acquainted and to feel the warmth and unity of the church fellowship. Through the closer fellowship of the individual parishes, it is hoped that a deeper sense of belonging will be fostered among us.

2. Within a large membership like ours there is always a great need for visitation and information concerning special needs. We also have a large potential of active members to visit and pass information on. The new plan was devised to encourage all church members to feel a responsibility for visiting in their parishes and informing the church office about special visitation needs: newcomers to town, prospective members, homebound members, and hospitalized members. The Parish Plan should also help to make new members feel more welcome, and make it possible for us to maintain closer contact with inactive and "retired roll" members.

Another very practical means of tying our membership closer together in fellowship, understanding, and love is the newssheet, entitled *Koinonos* (from the Greek word meaning partner, associate, companion, or sharer). This "newsy" bulletin, which is mailed to the entire membership, carries many items of interest and announcements not printed in the more formal church bulletin.



Both the church bulletin and *Koinonos* are mailed to students in colleges and preparatory schools, and to all our homebound members.

The Church Fellowship (for all adult members of the church) meets monthly for dinner and a program. While the principal purpose of this group is to provide an informal setting in which old and new members alike may become better acquainted, the meetings are planned to stimulate Christian thinking as well as to foster Christian fellowship.

## **Our Ministry of Service**

The ideal and the motivation for Christian service are inherent in the Biblical teaching of "the stewardship of all of life." The meaning of this phrase is that all we are and all we have comes finally from the love and mercy of God and from our membership in human society. We are dependent and interdependent creatures; no one is really self-sufficient, for we need each other. God's final judgment upon every man's life is, "What have you done with what you have?"

Believing that we live under the obligation to put back into life something for all that we receive, we seek to train and equip our members for constructive service, to cultivate in them the desire to serve, and then to provide opportunities for that service. We do not assume that the Christian's proper service is confined to what he does within the church. We believe that Christian service must also reach out into the life of the community. Therefore you will find our members actively participating—sometimes far out of proportion to our numerical strength—in every worth-while community endeavor. At the same time, however, we believe that a church member should give high priority to the needs and the calls of the church for a fair portion of his time, his talents, and his possessions.

The doors of our church are open seven days a week, and the doors of our ministry of service are never closed. No human need knocking at these doors is irrelevant to us, and no human problem is too small to claim our attention. Within the limitations of our ability, we seek to carry on a ministry of service

as wide as the dimensions of human need and as inclusive as the expanse of human concern. Through visitation and pastoral care, personal counseling, and sympathetic friendship, we seek to release the healing and helping forces of Christian love and good will whenever and wherever we can. Through a limited program of social action we seek to fill the immediate needs of persons who ask our help and support. And through the mission, church extension, and benevolence agencies of our church—in preaching, teaching, and healing—we extend this ministry of service throughout the world.

## **Our Invitation to You**

We have tried to tell you a bit about our church, about our understanding of the meaning and the implications of the Christian faith and the Christian life, and about what we are trying to be and do here at First Church. We hope you have found it interesting and informative.

We believe that every sincere and serious-purposed person who wishes to commit himself or herself to the Christian faith and the Christian life can find somewhere close at hand a church fellowship that is congenial and helpful to his or her spiritual needs and aspirations, and one that offers ample opportunity for growth and service.

Under that conviction we invite you to come and visit us, to learn more about us, and to give us the pleasure and privilege of knowing you better. Should you find here, as many have, what you want as a “church home” for yourself and your family, then, in the name of Christ and with all the sincerity and friendliness at our command, we would welcome you into the life and ministry of the First Presbyterian Church. Our invitation is simple, genuine, and forthright. We shall not harass or annoy you about “joining our church.” We want you to know that whenever you are ready the doors to this church and to our Christian fellowship are open and waiting to welcome you. Should you wish to talk further about this matter, you need only to call the church office, or speak to any officer or member of the church. Your request will be passed on to the minister.



Our invitation to you may be summed up in this word from the Bible: "Come with us and we will seek to do thee good." We are also confident that you can do us great good.

## How Does One Join the Presbyterian Church?

In the Presbyterian church the Session (the governing body) admits persons to membership. After being received by the Session, new members are later (usually at the next communion service) welcomed by the congregation and given their certificates of membership and other literature concerning the church. Almost every Sunday the invitation to membership is given from the pulpit. The Session meets in the Cloister Chapel following the close of the 11:00 A.M. Service of Worship, and new members may be received at that time.

Persons who have never been members of any church join by *profession of faith*. This may be a simple statement about your personal religious faith, or it may be affirmative answers to certain questions concerning your faith in and commitment to Christ as Lord and Saviour. Persons who have never been baptized receive the sacrament of baptism—a simple rite symbolizing their entrance into the church.

Persons who have been members of other Protestant churches may be received by *Letter of Transfer*. We will write to the church of your former membership and request such transfer.

When for any reason (such as loss of church records) such Letters of Transfer are not available, a person may be received by *re-affirmation of faith*. This again may be your own statement of your desire to become a member of this church, or your affirmative answers to certain simple questions along the same line.

For temporary residents of Durham (undergraduate and graduate students, nurses, interns, instructors, and any others here for a short while) who desire an active relationship with a local church without severing membership with their home church *affiliate* membership is available. Affiliate membership offers all the privileges and responsibilities of regular membership except voting and election to the Session and Diaconate.

## **Schedule of Sunday Services**

9:45 A.M.—Sunday School, with classes for all ages and nurseries for infants.

9:45 A.M.—First Service of Worship.

10:45 A.M.—Second-hour Sunday School session for babies and children through the Primary Department.

11:00 A.M.—Second Service of Worship.

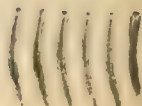
6:00 P.M.—Supper for the Pioneer Youth Fellowship and the Senior High Fellowship.

6:30 P.M.—Meetings and programs for the Pioneer Youth Fellowship and the Senior High Fellowship.

Each Sunday's bulletin carries a calendar of regular and special events for the following week.





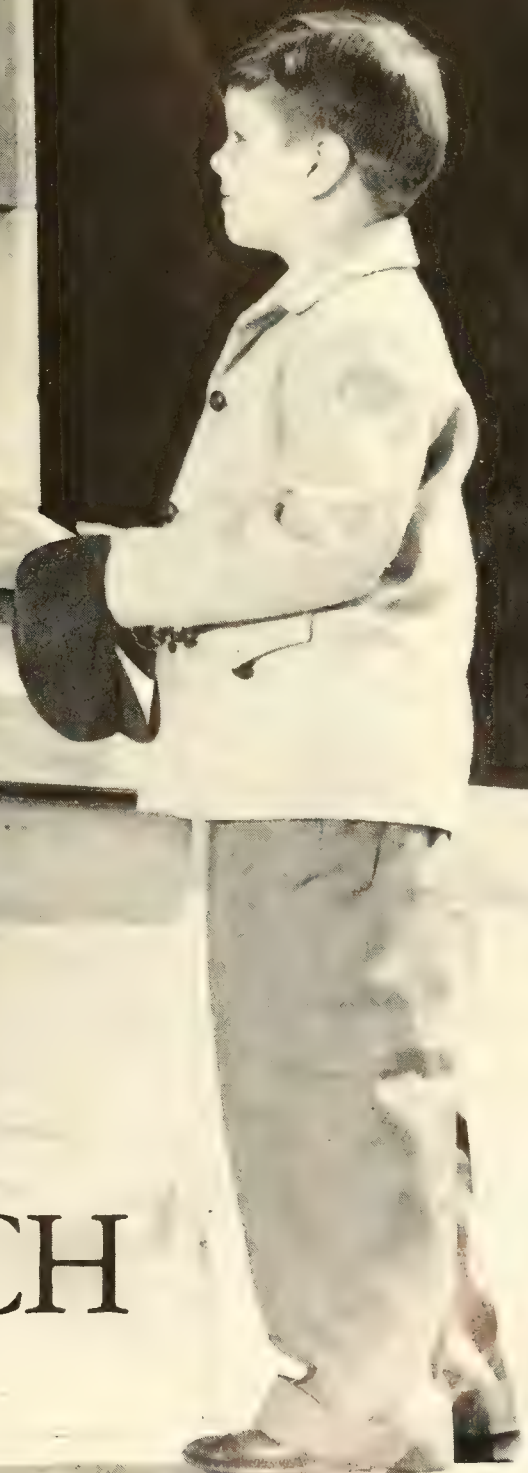


Mrs. Albert Meyer

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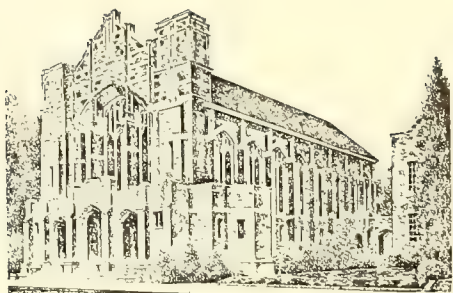


OUR CHURCH

# FOREWORD

The Steering Committee appreciates the cooperation of the many members who aided in the preparation of this brochure. We especially thank Mrs. Howard Gamble for her pictorial supervision; Whitley & Scott, photographers; Seeman Printery; and George Watts Fowler, art director, Harvey-Massengale Co.

We regret the omission of many children in the class photographs which were taken during the peak of the measles epidemic.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA





# OUR CHURCH

"Early in the Spring of 1876, as soon as roof, weatherboarding and floor were in place, we began to worship in our little sanctuary. . . . Planks laid across boxes served as seats. A fruit crate with a piano cover spread over it furnished a pulpit. . . . Each family carried a lamp from home on preaching nights to light the church."

Thus, is written the History of The First Presbyterian Church of Durham in description of our first church building.

Humble? According to today's standards, yes. But to our courageous forefathers it represented a dream accomplished. And to pay for that dream they reached into both their savings and their precious credit. But



a church of their own they needed, wanted, and did have! They had organized just five years earlier—in 1872—and in the inter-

vening period had met where they could . . . in someone's house usually, or in a friendly fellow Christian church that offered a tem-



Nursery Department



Kindergarten Department



porary haven until they could have a place of their very own in which to worship. When organized the Church had 11 mem-

bers. By 1877—six years later—there were 36 members, eighteen enrolled in Sunday School with six teachers.



Primary Department—First Grade



Primary Department—Second Grade





Primary Department—Third Grade



Junior Department—Fourth Grade



By 1882 they had furnished the Church and next to that building erected the first Manse. Growing rapidly in numbers, the congrega-

tion built the second church building in 1889. From the start, the Sunday School was a vigorous partner in our Church's over-all



Junior Department—Fifth Grade



Junior Department—Sixth Grade



program. Still greater stimulant to the Sunday School was provided by Mr. George Watts who became its superintendent in 1889

and who served in that role for thirty-two years. By 1897 there were 173 pupils in the Sunday School with 15 teachers. A



Seventh Grade Girls



Seventh Grade Boys



quotation from the manual published in 1911 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Church said, "Our Church—

young, vigorous, and growing—is 40 years old today. But we are here not only to commemorate the past, but to plan for the



Eighth and Ninth Grade Boys



Eighth and Ninth Grade Girls



future. First of all we ought to build a new Sunday School room at once. God has blessed our labors and has given us such

numbers that we have no room to provide properly for them. I hope that before we celebrate our 50th anniversary, 10 years



Senior High School Class



College Students



hence, we shall be working in a new and properly equipped Sunday School Building." That hope was to be realized. Our first

and present Sunday School building was erected in 1913, a gift from Mr. Watts. By the year 1915 the congregation had out-



Young Adults



Blacknall Bible Class



grown "the little brick church" so that Mr. Watts contributed \$60,000 and the members \$20,000 for the building of the third and present Church which was dedicated on May 14, 1916.

The love and deep interest of Mr. Watts and his family was still further evidenced in 1922 with their gift of the Church House.

With these beautiful and adequate physical facilities, Our Church was prepared to grow with the City of Durham. Noticeable in the expanse was the development of the Sunday School program. For many years to follow, we pointed proudly to the Sunday School and to its training of our children and young people in particular.



Big Brothers Bible Class



The Women of the Church



But adequate though our Sunday School facilities were in 1913 and for some time thereafter, the oncoming years and further growth gradually taxed these facilities greatly.

By 1940 it was obvious that again the time had come for action to meet the needs of our Sunday School. World War II years not only made this impossible but also added to the problem as fresh generations in unprecedented number were added to the roll.

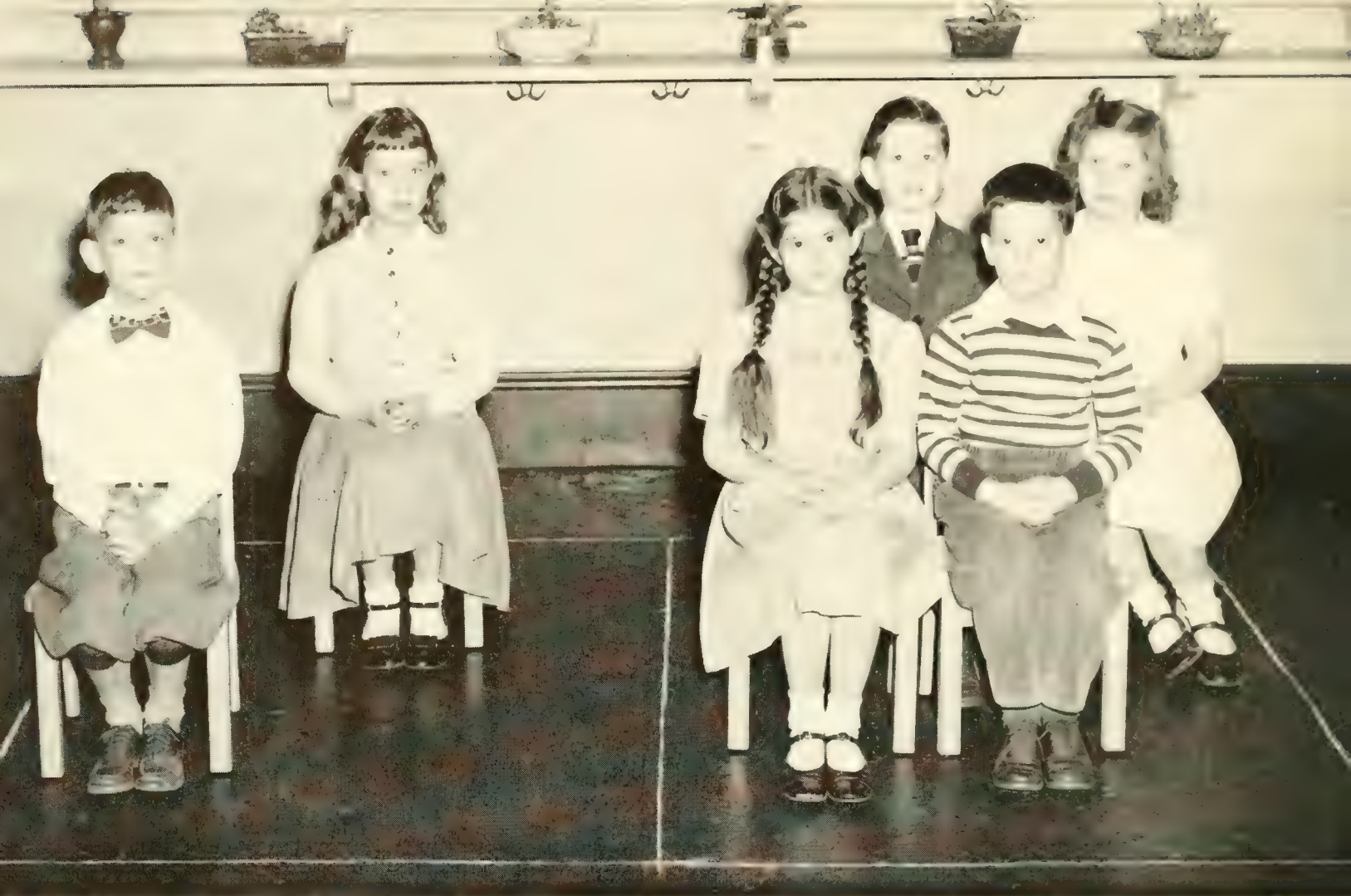
Strange not then was it that in the minds of the congregation at large the need for

new Sunday School facilities became paramount. For thirty-six years we had made no major capital expenditure on Sunday School facilities. Meantime, newer methods calling for more space and equipment and a steadily mounting attendance combined to point up the necessity for additional facilities.

This need was spelled out by an investigating committee's report of 1948-49 on School needs. Chief findings are described on the following two pages. Clearly, the Sunday School of The First Presbyterian Church of



Religious Education Teachers



1913—Adequate Facilities

1949—Crowded, Outmoded

Durham is at a cross-road. We either press onward or we close our eyes to our responsibilities to our children. Simultaneously, needs of the Church's choir and of the kitchen were studied. They, too, are summarized on the following pages . . . and the story is the same. The situation is critical. Rightfully proud as we are of our past, we cannot any longer rest on our laurels. The challenge for action must be answered NOW.

In 1913 when our Sunday School Building was erected, adequate space and facilities became available. Today we are trying to serve twice as many children in the same space with practically the same equipment. Not a single major capital expenditure has been made on our Sunday School needs for thirty-six years!

Is it any wonder that . . .

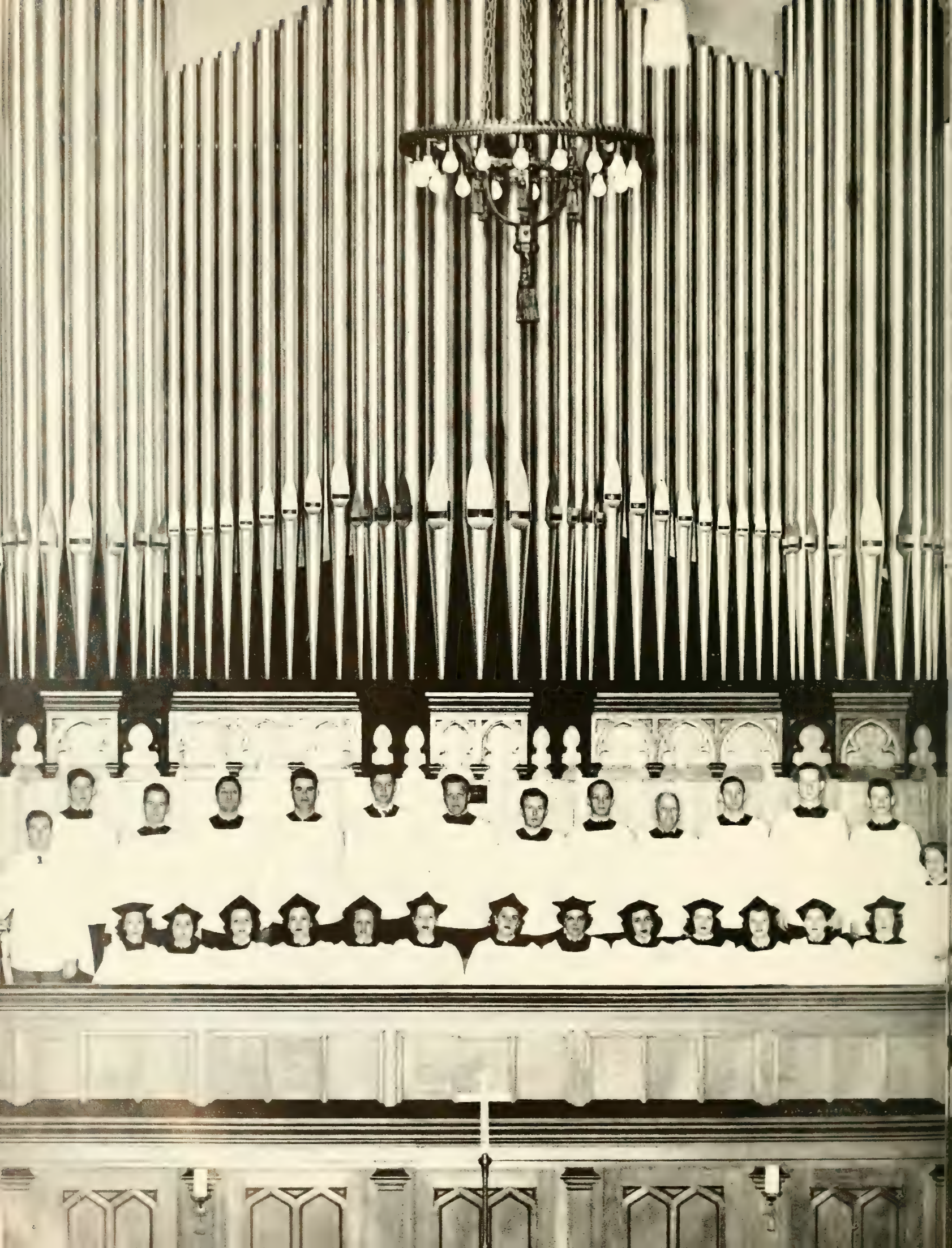


- Teaching in the younger age classes is a constant strain
- Difficult and disciplinary problems are frequent
- Teachers are becoming discouraged
- Children are not deriving from Sunday School even a fair portion of the potential
- Some classes do not have a room of their own
- We cannot take care of our present enrollment let alone the certain increase in enrollment
- Parents are becoming increasingly aware that many other churches in Durham provide superior Sunday School facilities.
- Modern teaching methods cannot be adopted fully because equipment is either lacking or antiquated.

(For a detailed account, class by class, read "Survey of Need for Our Present and Immediately Anticipated Sunday School Program.")









# Music

is a beautiful part of our Church Services and program. Still finer results and greater opportunity are possible as detailed by the Music Committee in its report covering needs. Enlarging the choir loft and moving the console to the front of the church will accommodate more singers and place the choir director and organist in closer touch with the choir. This can be done by moving forward the balcony and choir rail and the pulpit and platform. As shown by the architect's drawings, these improvements can be made gracefully. Your particular attention is directed to the following excerpt from the Music Com-

mittee's report: "It has been a long-felt need in our Church that our choir loft was too small to accommodate the regular choir and to provide any space for volunteer singers. There is now and always will be a number of our young people who have the ability to sing in the choir, whose voices would add greatly to the beauty of our worship. These young people will probably form the nucleus of our choir a few years hence. As the situation now exists we are virtually closing the door in their faces. Our committee feels most emphatically that relief should be given by enlarging the choir loft along the lines indicated."











# KITCHEN

A visitor enjoying one of the delicious meals or snacks served in the Church House probably would not believe that all that good food comes from the inadequate kitchen pictured above. That it does is a tribute to the skill and patience of the Staff and ladies of the Church.

No words are minced by the Survey Committee: "The kitchen of the Church House is a disgrace!"

All of us may not teach a Sunday School

class and realize how pressing is the need for attractive, additional space and facilities. All of us may not have talented sons and daughters who would like to sing in the Church Choir if there were room for them. Only a limited number of us understand the technicalities of heating, plumbing, construction and how needed are repairs and replacements in this department of our Church property. But the kitchen, that's different. We have only to take one look at the kitchen in the Church House and compare it with the kitchen in our own home to realize that the Survey Committee did not exaggerate in its harsh description.



# CAMPAIGN MESSAGE

According to early Church history, the members carried lamps from their homes on church nights to light their humble place of worship. Now, we of today have a little torch bearing to do, too. The first campaign for capital funds since 1915 is about to get underway.

While members of most every other church have answered repeated calls, we have not been asked to contribute other than operating expenses for our Church and Sunday School property in almost 35 years!

The goal is \$125,000. That is what is needed to get improved and new Sunday School facilities, enlarged choir loft, and a modern kitchen. By far the largest share of the monies needed is for the Sunday School, a phase of our Church particularly close to the spiritual life of our children. We cannot, we will not fail them.

Everyone admits the needs. Nor is there any question as to the financial ability of the membership to give \$125,000. We give about a third of that amount in the Annual Every Member Canvass and certainly few of us would term our gifts to that cause as "overly generous."

No, the only danger is that, because few of us have had to dig deep in the past for our Church, we may have become soft givers. Frankly, your Committee is aware of this danger but is equally confident that each and every one of us will regard the challenge of this campaign seriously and sincerely, and give accordingly.

If we do, the goal will be OVER-SUBSCRIBED THE FIRST YEAR! Indeed, this financial drive can become a fresh, invigorating force resulting in renewed membership interest and rededication of loyalty. In that spirit you are invited to share in this vital enterprise.

(Signed) C. A. Croft, *Chairman, Session's Executive Committee*; Charles S. Sydnor, Sr., *Clerk of Session*; Robert S. Hays, Jr., *Chairman, Board of Deacons*; W. W. Couch, Jr., *Chairman, Steering Committee*; Mrs. Wm. M. Coppridge, Carl R. Harris, John L. Moorhead, Howard W. Gamble, William Muirhead, J. F. Wily, Jr., *Steering Committee members.*



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Maughan, Miss Barbara	Nisbet, Miss Mary G.	Reinhart, Mrs. Henry P.	Stocker, Miss Gabrielle	Warren, William Franklin, Jr.
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Miller, Mrs. E. M.	Odom, Mrs. James A.	Roberson, Mrs. Foy	Sydnor, Charles S., Jr.	White, Gilbert C.
Miller, John K.	Odom, James A., Jr.	Roberson, Miss Helen	Sydnor, Victor	White, Mrs. Gilbert C.
Miller, Mrs. John K.	Odom, Richard	Robert, Dr. Joseph C.	Taylor, Mrs. A. B.	Wicker, Mrs. C. A.
Miller, L. P.	Odom, Terrance	Robert, Mrs. Joseph C.	Taylor, Mrs. Jack A.	Wilkinson, Joseph
Miller, Mrs. L. P.	O'Kelley, Mrs. J. M.	Robert, Frank C.	Teasley, Mrs. B. F.	Wilkinson, Mrs. Albert
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Minter, Mrs. Wm. D.	Oosting, Dr. Henry J.	Roberts, Mrs. Louis C.	Tilley, Mrs. Donald L.	Wilkinson, Fred B.
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Morgan, Willard B.	Peeler, Jonathan Lee	Scanlon, Mrs. David H.	Tyren, Mrs. Theodore T.	Williams, Miss Etta
Muirhead, William	Peeler, Miss Claudia	Scanlon, David H., Jr.	Umstead, Percy W.	Williams, F. J.
Muirhead, Mrs. William	Penn, Mrs. H. L.	Scanlon, Mrs. David H., Jr.	Umstead, Percy W.	Williams, Mrs. F. J.
Muirhead, Alastair	Penn, Miss Margaret Lee	Scarlett, Mrs. E. H.	Umstead, Allan	Williams, F. J., Jr.
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McGarvey, Miss Marie L.	Powell, Albert H., Jr.	Smith, Mrs. Albert N.	Waite, Miss Nina	Worth, Thomas C.
McGranahan, Mrs. Anna	Powell, Wm. Douglas	Smith, Dr. Annie T.	Waite, Miss Margaret	Worth, Mrs. Thomas C.
McGranahan, Mrs. L. N.	Pratt, Lanier W.	Smith, Walter Gold	Walker, Mrs. C. E.	Worth, Miss Betty
McIver, Mrs. Evan G.	Pratt, Mrs. Lanier W.	Spain, Mrs. W. L.	Walker, Dr. Marvin E.	Worth, Mrs. A. H.
McIver, Evan G., Jr.	Preston, Dr. Rhea S.	Spencer, Mrs. John A.	Walker, Mrs. Marvin E.	Wright, Richard H., Jr.
McIver, Mrs. Evan G., Jr.	Preston, Mrs. Rhea S.	Spicer, Gordon M.	Wall, Doris E.	Wright, Mrs. R. H., Jr.
McKee, Mrs. Ada	Proctor, W. L.	Stanford, Dr. W. Raney	Walters, A. H.	Wright, Miss Turissa
McNutt, James M.	Proctor, Mrs. W. L.	Stanford, Stephen D.	Walters, Mrs. A. H.	Wright, Miss Elizabeth Scanlon
McNutt, Mrs. James M.	Raney, Mrs. R. B.	Stansbury, Dale F.	Ward, Charles E.	Wright, Miss Mary Elizabeth
McPherson, Dr. S. D.	Rankin, Dr. Robert S.	Stansbury, Mrs. Dale F.	Ward, Mrs. Charles E.	Wynne, George V.
McPherson, Mrs. S. D.	Rankin, Mrs. Robert S.	Stansbury, Miss Patricia Ann	Ward, Lochlin M.	Wynne, Mrs. George V.
McPherson, Dr. Sam D., Jr.	Ray, J. Marvin	Stansbury, Miss Betty Stuart	Warner, Mrs. G. Frank	Wynne, Willis Holland
McPherson, Mrs. S. D., Jr.	Ray, Mrs. J. Marvin	Stevenson, Mrs. A. H.	Warren, George A.	Wynne, Mrs. Willis Holland
Neathery, W. M.		Still, John T.	Warren, Mrs. George A.	Young, Miss Zoe
		Still, Mrs. John T.		

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ROLL

### Pre-Nursey

Julia Teer Albright  
Eric Boutwell  
Susan Buchanan  
Arden Howell IV  
Richard Keir  
Martha Leary  
Oliver Perry McKinnon, Jr.  
Samuel Pratt  
Mary Ann Sterling  
Cotting White  
Ruth Willets  
Diane Woods  
Martha Dillard Gomer  
Susan Fowler

Stephen Conant  
Margaret Damon  
John David Gunter

### Nursery Class Roll

Kyle Arms  
Joyce Ann Blalock  
Barbara Boutwell  
Catherine Callaway  
Terry Caudill  
Bryan Clemmons  
"Joey" (Annette) Copley  
Samuel Daniel  
Charles Davis  
Stuart Ducker

Ethel Carr Girvin  
Keith Grimson  
Charles Landis Hackney  
Ellen Hinshaw  
Lawrence Jones  
Gay Lane  
Joan Mattheiss  
James Lee Montsinger  
Katherine MacKinnon  
Peggy McPherson  
Jill Newberry  
Walter Scott Persons  
Fay Riggsbee  
Elizabeth Walker Robb  
Linda Sirmans

Billy Stuart  
Johnny Taylor  
Patricia Turner  
Randall Ward  
Virginia Willets  
Richard Williams  
Margaret Wilson

### Kindergarten Department

Bill Albright  
Bill Archie  
Tommy Arms  
Richard Beach  
Michael Blalock

Susanne Boone  
Judy Bradley  
Freddie Callaway  
Tally Conant  
Anne Crenshaw  
Johnny Cuttino  
Wilton Damon  
Dorothy Anne Daniel  
Peter Dann  
Karen Deener  
Mike Deichmann  
Jean Dunn  
Judy Franklin  
Johnny Gray  
Judd Gray



Baird Grimson  
Carolyn Hackney  
Martha Hagerty  
Nancy Harris  
Willie Horne  
Taffy Howell  
Mary Susan Huffer  
Johnny Hunziker  
Barbara Isenhour  
Kate Land  
Kathy Leathers  
Cameron McCaughelty  
Johnny McArthur  
Jimmie McCue  
Marilyn Miller  
Pat Montgomery  
Marianne Moorhead  
Tessie Murdock  
Mary Pearse  
Anne Pickett  
Annie Pickrell  
Beverly Pope  
Ellen Pratt  
Lanny Pratt  
Dee Robb  
Patricia Roberts  
Gaines Robertson  
Gerry Rodenhizer  
Rosalie Ross  
Calvin Shaw  
Joy Sterling  
Judy Tilly  
Teresa Tyren  
Dickie Van Wagenen  
Judith West  
Gilbert White  
Margot Wilkinson  
Charles Wilson  
Ralph Wilson  
George Wynne

#### Primaries

##### First Grade

Nowell Creadick  
Ronnie Crenshaw  
Bill Croom  
Elliott Currie  
Kenneth Yates  
Harriet Cuttino  
Frances Dunn  
Roger Grimson  
Nick Gray  
Stephen Hagerty  
Harry Holliday  
Ann McIver  
Anne McArthur  
Laurie Miller  
Ed Horn  
Jimmy Ray  
Charles Ward  
Julia Wiley  
Johnny Myers  
Barbara Joan Strayhorn

##### Second Grade

Joe Pratt  
Betty Jean Bradley  
Jackie Copley  
Laura Conant  
Elizabeth Ann Dunn  
Jimmy Hendrix  
Banks Hinchaw  
Skippy Isenhour  
Margaret Cameron McCue  
Joy Oosting  
Tommy Pearse  
Cathy Pickrell  
Judy Pickrell  
Carroll Roberts  
Pat Rodenhizer  
Charles Robertson  
Dan Sirmans  
Charles Stuart  
Ann Tyler  
Lou Uzzle  
Gordon Warren  
Linda Watkins  
Hughes Wilkinson  
Livingston Wiley  
Barbara Booth  
Allen Blalock

#### Third Grade

Ann Bennett  
Joe Buchanan  
Betsy Deichmann  
Buckie Dunn  
Jerry Elliott  
Dick Hendrickson  
Virginia Jackson  
Julia Jones  
Billy Maughan  
Vernon Pratt  
Bobby Rankin  
Carol Robert  
Ronald Rodenhizer  
Betsy Scanlon  
Dinny White  
Sylvia Wilkinson  
Geoffrey Ward

#### Junior

##### Department

##### Fourth Grade

Deanna Bradley  
Janice Everett  
Mary Elizabeth Gray  
Margaret Hamblen  
Jackie Holt  
June Humphries  
Wier Irvine  
Carolyn Leary  
Dorothy McDevett  
Lynn Moorhead  
Nancy Patton  
Carl West  
John F. Wily, Jr.

##### Fifth Grade

Lucius Bigelow  
Ann Davis  
Bill Gray  
Sue Gray  
Bill Murphy  
Jacqueline Miller  
Angeline Norris  
Terry Odom  
Frances Owen  
Sandra Perry  
John Pratt  
Chas. Ross  
Jimmy Tyler  
Thos. White  
Nancy Gay Lyon  
Hope Smith

##### Sixth Grade

Mary Bigelow  
Bill Couch, Jr.  
Ann Creadick  
Mary Dann  
Susan Deichmann  
Thomas Harris  
Marian Hays  
Muriel Hendrix  
Carter Jones  
Harriett Pickett  
Dorothy Battle Rankin  
M. de Berniere Roberson, Jr.  
Robert R. Wilson, Jr. (Chip)  
Willia Conant

#### Junior High

##### Seventh Grade Boys

David Currie  
Ronald Everett  
Jan Oosting  
Macon Patton  
David Scanlon III  
John Noel Simpson  
Allan Umstead  
Thomas Wilkinson

##### Seventh Grade Girls

Tonya Gamble  
Linda Irvine  
Martha Karriker  
Margot Regen

Joan Scott  
Evelyn Stocker

#### Eighth and Ninth Grade Boys

Charles Bartholomew  
Al Bryant  
Charles Carr  
Charles A. Dukes, Jr.  
Richard Dunn  
Ralph Graham  
Duncan Hays  
Thomas Lee  
Wendy Ligon  
Richard Odom  
Jon W. Regen  
Frank Robert  
David Rogers  
Robert Ross  
John Stinespring  
Runyon Tyler  
Granville Uzzle

#### Eighth and Ninth Grade Girls

Carolyn Beasley  
Linda Conant  
Elizabeth Davis  
Gretchen Deichmann  
Joan Earle  
Sally Gray  
Melba Lindsey  
Joanne McDevett  
Claudia Peeler  
Rosemary Rhine  
Patricia Stansbury  
Gabrielle Stocker

#### Senior High School

Max Barnhardt  
Hal Bowden  
Jack Bowden  
Jane Bolmeier  
Joan Bolmeier  
Harry Branch, Jr.  
Norman Conant  
Sylvia Conant  
June Carr  
Bobby Fuquay  
Nancy Green  
Agnes Hamblen  
Ransome Harris  
Laura Hays  
Frances Jeffreys  
David Jones  
Fuller Karriker  
Phillip Lewis  
Lonnie T. Matthews, Jr.  
James Odom  
Sarah Anne Reese  
Natalie Simpson  
Victor Sydnor  
Dan Uzzle  
Fuller Whitaker

#### Young Adults

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Archie  
Mrs. George Arms  
Mr. and Mrs. William Albright  
Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Boone  
Mrs. E. T. Buchanan, Jr.  
Mr. Robert E. Chambers  
Dr. and Mrs. Norman Conant  
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Crenshaw  
Mr. and Mrs. Isadore Croft  
Dr. and Mrs. John Cuttino  
Mrs. S. V. Daniel, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Fowler  
Mrs. Charles Gomer  
Mr. and Mrs. Balford Hackney  
Mr. and Mrs. Eart Hagerty  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hay  
Dr. and Mrs. Arden Howell  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jones  
Mr. and Mrs. John McArthur  
Mr. John McMillan  
Mr. and Mrs. Cameron McCue  
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin H. Pope  
Mrs. Joe Porter  
Dr. Robert S. Rankin  
Dr. and Mrs. Louis Roberts

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith  
Mrs. Calvin H. Shaw  
Mrs. J. L. Sterling  
Mrs. Wilma Stuart  
Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Sirmans  
Mr. Ted Tyren  
Dr. and Mrs. Marvin Walker  
Mr. and Mrs. Lochlin Ward  
Mrs. A. T. West  
Mrs. Willis Wynne

#### Business Women

Miss Julia Albright  
Mrs. Joe A. Albright  
Miss Jewel Bennett  
Mrs. C. E. Bennett  
Mrs. Hubert Brown  
Mrs. Harry Christian  
Mrs. G. T. Dunn  
Mrs. Sadie Gallyon  
Mrs. Clarice Gattis  
Mrs. Rachel Greene  
Mrs. C. E. Hooker  
Miss Liza Jones  
Mrs. J. A. Ligon  
Mrs. F. K. Lindsey  
Mrs. Hazel Myers  
Miss Clara Murray  
Mrs. W. S. McDevett  
Miss Gladys Paulson  
Mrs. Aline Rodenhizer  
Mrs. Riley Reese  
Dr. Annie T. Smith  
Miss Ema Tholen  
Mrs. J. L. Trevathan  
Mrs. Eva Warren  
Miss Lucille Waite  
Miss Nina Waite  
Mrs. N. S. Watkins  
Mrs. H. S. Whitaker  
Miss Zoe Young

#### Blacknall Bible Class

Mrs. H. E. Adams  
Mrs. T. H. Antrim  
Mrs. D. L. Boone  
Mrs. R. H. Buckingham  
Mrs. J. W. Carpenter  
Mrs. Lena Champion  
Mrs. Rodney Chase  
Mrs. Eva Coley  
Miss Annie H. Collins  
Mrs. W. D. Croom  
Mrs. Edith Davis  
Mrs. Charles Dukes  
Mrs. B. W. Elliott  
Mrs. R. O. Everett  
Mrs. A. L. Ferguson  
Mrs. D. L. Garrard  
Mrs. Lee Roy Gattis  
Mrs. G. C. Glymph  
Mrs. Lee Goodwin  
Mrs. J. H. Gregory  
Mrs. K. S. Grimson  
Mrs. H. O. Gurganus  
Mrs. W. A. Honeycutt  
Mrs. Sallie Hammett  
Mrs. Spears Hicks  
Mrs. J. F. Hill  
Mrs. J. R. Hopkins  
Mrs. D. J. Huckabee  
Mrs. W. B. Jeffreys  
Mrs. T. R. Karriker  
Mrs. R. N. Kemp  
Mrs. T. C. Kerns  
Mrs. C. F. Korstian  
Mrs. J. B. Leathers  
Mrs. J. Grover Lee  
Mrs. P. C. Lewis  
Mrs. D. L. McDonald  
Mrs. Anna McGranahan  
Mrs. L. T. Matthews  
Mrs. E. C. Murray  
Mrs. W. G. Murray  
Mrs. W. J. Neeley  
Mrs. Hubert O'Brian  
Mrs. J. M. O'Kelley  
Mrs. W. L. Proctor  
Mrs. Z. A. Rochelle  
Mrs. W. D. Separk

Mrs. E. W. Shackelford  
Mrs. W. H. Simpson  
Mrs. W. L. Simpson  
Mrs. W. W. Skinner  
Mrs. W. I. Smith  
Mrs. Gertrude A. Stow  
Mrs. R. N. Strayhorn  
Mrs. A. B. Taylor  
Mrs. J. R. Tisdale  
Mrs. George Warren  
Mrs. Albert Wilkinson  
Mrs. Fred Williams  
Mrs. D. M. Williams  
Mrs. T. A. Winder  
Mrs. A. H. Worth  
Mrs. R. R. Wilson  
Mrs. George V. Wynne

#### Big Brothers' Bible Class

J. A. Albright  
George Arms  
T. H. Antrim  
A. H. Baker  
E. W. Beasley  
H. W. Branch, Sr.  
H. W. Branch, Jr.  
S. O. Cates  
R. Y. Chase  
H. L. Christian  
J. W. Christian  
L. V. Craig  
C. A. Croft  
W. D. Croom  
C. A. Dukes  
B. W. Elliott  
Coy M. Franklin  
Lee Roy Gattis  
John H. Gibson  
G. C. Glymph  
Lee C. Goodwin  
Horace Hendrickson  
C. S. Hicks  
J. F. Hill  
Thad C. Hill  
W. B. Hinchaw  
Tim A. Hudson  
C. O. Huffer  
J. E. Hulse  
J. C. Hundley  
R. G. Jones  
J. B. Leathers  
J. Grover Lee  
L. C. Mann  
L. T. Matthews, Sr.  
J. M. McCaskill  
D. L. McDonald  
L. P. Miller  
W. G. Murray  
R. G. Montgomery  
H. E. Montsinger, Jr.  
B. B. Myers  
J. A. Odom  
R. D. Patterson  
J. R. Patton  
J. L. Pleasants  
R. S. Rankin  
J. M. Ray  
Z. A. Rochelle  
W. H. Simpson  
W. L. Simpson  
H. L. Sirmans  
G. M. Spicer  
J. W. Stone, Sr.  
L. D. Styron  
C. S. Sydnor  
J. L. Trevathan  
A. H. Walters  
E. Gordon Warren  
George A. Warren  
W. Frank Warren  
H. S. Whitaker  
H. E. Wilkinson, Jr.  
T. N. Wilkinson  
A. G. Wilkinson  
Fred Wilkinson  
C. E. Williams  
Fred J. Williams  
C. T. Wilson  
T. A. Winder  
R. R. Wilson

